

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 05882 241452Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13  
FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00  
EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 OES-07  
SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PA-01 PRS-01  
/150 W

-----242127Z 022435 /75

R 241306Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1316  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY ACCRA  
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA  
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA  
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
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AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMCONSUL CURACAO  
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 5882

USOEC D PARIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, NI

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION

REF: (A) LAGOS 4759, (B) LAGOS 4901

1. NIGERIAN CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION IN APRIL 1977 AVERAGED 2,257,559 BARRELS PER DAY (B/D), SLIGHTLY ABOVE MARCH FIGURE. LARGEST INCREASE REGISTERED BY MOBIL OIL, WHICH WAS GIVEN PERMISSION BY NIGERIAN NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION (NNPC) TO REMOVE ALL PRODUCTION RESTRICTIONS. REASON FOR THIS WAS THAT NNPC HAD OVERSOLD LIGHT CRUDE AND NEEDED MORE TO MEET COMMITMENTS. FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS PROVISIONAL PRODUCTION FIGURES FOR APRIL AND FINAL FIGURES FOR MARCH.

COMPANY	APRIL	MARCH	PERCENT CHANGE
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SHELL-BP	1,309,464	1,315,173	-0.4
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GULF	309,812	316,205	-2.0
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MOBIL	257,758	237,764	PLUS 8.4
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AGIP/PHILLIPS	228,101	227,872	-0.1
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ELF	87,013	85,657	PLUS 1.6
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TEXACO/CHEVRON	47,983	52,767	-9.1
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PAN OCEAN	8,009	10,993	-27.1
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ASHLAND	9,419	8,636	PLUS 9.1
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ALL COMPANIES 2,257,559 2,255,067 PLUS 0.1

2. FOLLOWING SECOND QUARTER PRICE INCREASE ANNOUNCED BY NIGERIA (SEE REFTEL B), WHICH NOT FOLLOWED BY OTHER PRODUCERS OF AFRICAN LIGHT CRUDE AND WHICH MADE NIGERIAN CRUDE HARD TO SELL, EXPORTS COLLAPSED BY 17.1 PERCENT, TO 1,962,761 B/D, OVER 400,000 B/D BELOW RECORD MARCH OFFTAKE. STORAGE TANKS ARE NOW COMPLETELY FULL, AND ANY DELAYS IN LIFTING BY CUSTOMERS RESULT IN TEMPORARY PRODUCTION CUTBACKS BY PRODUCING COMPANIES. MOBIL OIL, FOR EXAMPLE, REPORTS MAY PRODUCTION HAS FALLEN BELOW MARCH LEVELS BECAUSE LATE ARRIVAL OF TWO NNPC NOMINATED VESSELS AT QUA IBOE TERMINAL NECESSITATED PRODUCTION SHUTDOWNS.

3. DRILLING RIGS EMPLOYED AT MONTH'S END TOTALLED 17.

4. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: ON MAY 20, MOBIL OIL COMPLETED FIRST WILDCAT DRILLED BY COMPANY SINCE 1974 AND HAS STRUCK WHAT MAY TURN OUT TO BE ITS BIGGEST FIELD. (MOBIL'S BIGGEST FIELD TO DATE CONTAINS ABOUT 300 MILLION BARRELS AND BIGGEST FIELD IN

NIGERIA HAS ABOUT 840 MILLION.) STRIKE IS LOCATED IN OML 70  
WEST OF EXISTING EKPE FIELD. COMPANY OFFICIALS TOLD EMBOFFS  
THAT, WHILE IT TOO EARLY TO BE PRECISE, THEY ESTIMATE ON BASIS  
THIS FIRST SHOWING THAT FIELD WILL INCREASE COMPANY'S RESERVES  
BY 10 PERCENT. IF RESULTS FROM OTHER PRODUCING ZONES IN FIRST  
WELL AND RESULTS FROM TWO ADDITIONAL WELLS YET TO BE DRILLED  
ARE EQUALLY PROMISING, THIS FIELD WILL INCREASE MOBIL'S RESERVES  
BY 30 PERCENT. MOBIL OFFICIALS SAY IT WILL TAKE A YEAR TO  
DEVELOP FIELD AND BRING IT INTO PRODUCTION. END LIMITED OFFICIAL  
USE  
EASUM

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM, PRODUCTION DATA  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LAGOS05882  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770185-0494  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** LAGOS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770524/aaaaauvc.tel  
**Line Count:** 127  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** dfc1568b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 LAGOS 4759, 77 LAGOS 4901  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2393965  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NIGERIAN CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION  
**TAGS:** ENRG, NI  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/dfc1568b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
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